

President Now Rests Beside 126,000 U.S. Heroes' Graves

By JOHN BARBOUR

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP)—The red glow of the saddest sunset faded over the hill's crest—and left President John F. Kennedy and 126,000 other sleeping heroes to the privacy of night.

Gone were the crowds that had trailed the funeral procession

across the nation's capital. Gone were the impressive and important of 54 governments. Gone were the close and dear.

Now, through the still woods and the open lawns sounded the melancholy boom of cannon—50 times for the 50 states. Even in darkness and mist, the tombstones—like small white scars on the earth—marked the resting place of his new company.

Down the slope and across the black Potomac, you can see the glittering lights of the capital and the towering Washington Monument, the graceful Capitol dome and the pillars of the Lincoln Memorial.

On this hill—gray green in the face of coming winter—the 35th president of the United States had joined a parliament of silent men.

By 5:05 p.m. the cannon had ended their soliloquy to dusk, and night came quickly.

At graveside, there was work to be finished, and when it was done the headlights of cars pointed the way through the winding cemetery roads.

There were still guards, of course. And down below along the rim of the cemetery there were the curious and sympathetic passersby, searching the darkness for the small glint of the eternal flame that burns at Kennedy's graveside.

Seven minutes before midnight, the President's widow returned to the cemetery. By the light of the flickering flame, she placed a sprig of flowers on his newly covered grave.